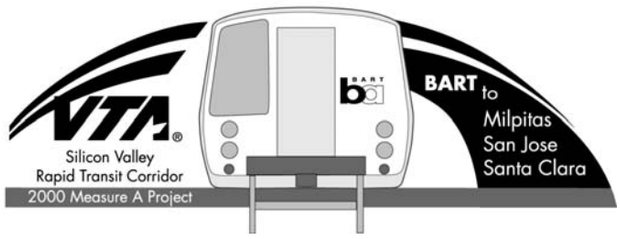

NOTICE OF FIELDWORK

SILICON VALLEY RAPID TRANSIT CORRIDOR
BART Extension to Milpitas, San Jose and Santa Clara

Preliminary Engineering Work Begins in Milpitas

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is continuing to advance the BART Extension to Milpitas, San Jose and Santa Clara with the start of preliminary engineering. As part of this effort, VTA will conduct soil and groundwater investigations along the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) right of way between Capitol Avenue in Milpitas and Kato Road in Fremont. This work will begin the week of Monday, August 2, 2004 and will continue for approximately four months, weather and conditions permitting.

Several types of investigations will be performed during this time period. One involves drilling test bores (small holes) into the ground, with soil and water samples then collected from the bores to determine subsurface soil and groundwater conditions. A second involves obtaining subsurface information such as soil strength and type through the use of a ground probe equipped with electronic sensors. A third involves collecting samples to determine if chemicals are present in the soil and groundwater. A fourth involves soil vibration testing.

Test bores take one to three days to complete. After the drilling is complete, crews remove excess soil from the drilling site. Local residents may experience minor noise and vibration impacts from the drilling and the back-up warning beepers on vehicles. Noise levels should be similar to truck traffic, leaf blowers and lawn mowers but less than jackhammers or chain saws. A portion of the field tests also includes intermittent noises from a hammer striking a metal surface. Visually, residents may be able to see the 35-foot high truck or trailer-mounted boom used for the test drillings.

The second type of investigation, a cone penetration test (CPT), takes several hours. Noise impacts should be limited to a generator used on site and the back-up warning beepers on vehicles. The CPT crews use a large, 30-foot truck and do not generate excess soil that needs to be hauled away.

The third type of investigation involves collecting soil and groundwater samples used to test for the presence of chemicals. Soil samples are collected from bores dug by hand or by a drilling rig mounted on a small tractor-like vehicle and groundwater samples are gathered from monitoring wells installed in test borings. Crews should finish work at any one collection site within one to two days. Excess soil is hauled off after the sample collection is completed. Local residents may experience minor noise and vibration impacts from the drilling and the back-up warning beepers on vehicles. Overall noise levels for this work should be similar to truck traffic, leaf blowers and lawn mowers. The soil sample collection process also involves the noise of a hammer striking a metal surface.

The fourth type of investigation measures the resulting vibration after a large weight is dropped to the ground at various locations along the right-of-way. Nearby businesses, residents and pedestrians are unlikely to feel the vibrations but will be able to hear a dull thud as the weight hits the ground. The device used to drop the weight is approximately six feet tall and is moved by hand cart. Crews will work at any one location for approximately four hours.

Hours of work are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Field crews will make every effort to maintain access and minimize inconvenience to local residents, businesses, pedestrians, motorists, and others. For the safety of the public and field crews, traffic control measures, as well as informational and warning signage, will be used when needed.

To learn more about the proposed BART Extension or to ask questions regarding the fieldwork, please contact VTA Community Outreach at (408) 321-7575, TDD for the hearing impaired at 321-2330. Log on to *www.vtabart-vta.org* for project information or *www.vta.org* under "Construction Updates" for the most current information on field activities. Thank you for your cooperation.

Si desea obtener información en español, por favor llame al Departamento de Servicio al Pasajero de VTA al (408) 321-2300.	• Nếu muốn thông tin bằng tiếng Việt, xin gọi Dịch Vụ Khách Hàng VTA tại (408) 321-2300.	• 若您要中文資料，請致電 (408) 321-2300 聯絡 VTA 客戶服務部。